

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

COVID-19 FORCES GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL TO POSTPONE OR CANCEL COMMUNITY EVENTS

It is with regret that following the advice issued by HM Government on 16 March, the decision has been made to postpone the Godalming Annual Town Meeting. The Annual meeting offers an opportunity for residents to put questions to the Council and was due to be held in the Council Chamber, on Thursday, 19 March.

The Annual Report is normally presented at this meeting, however, residents can now download a copy from the Town Council's website <https://godalming-tc.gov.uk/annual-reports/>. The Mayor of Godalming would normally also present Volunteer Awards to local residents who have made a difference to their community at the meeting. Due to the current circumstances the Volunteer Awards presentation will be rescheduled for later in the year.

The Mayor of Godalming said "After discussion with the Leader of the Council and the Town Clerk, I approved the decision to postpone this event. This step has not been taken lightly, but it is felt it is the Council's social responsibility to take this action until there is less uncertainty and more information on how COVID-19 will impact our Town. Our priority is to protect those most vulnerable and to prepare our contingency arrangements so that we can continue to serve our town and community".

In establishing Godalming Town Council's response to COVID-19, it is recognised that the situation is fluid and the Council's response must be adaptable to future national guidance and advice. It is therefore with deep regret that the Godalming Museum will be closed until further notice and that the Godalming Spring Festival, due to take place on Saturday, 4 April has had to be cancelled. Additionally, the Consultation & Listening Event scheduled for Saturday, 21 March is also cancelled and from Sunday, 22 March, the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Broadwater Park Community Centre and The Pepperpot will be closed until the end of April. The situation will remain under review and we hope to re-open the community buildings as soon as it is appropriate to do so.

The Council will endeavour to provide as normal a service as possible, but for the time being residents will need to make an appointment to visit the Town Council offices. Appointments can be made by calling 01483 523575 or emailing office@godalming-tc.gov.uk

Please check the Town Council's website www.godalming-tc.gov.uk for up-to-date information on the Town Council's services and notices.

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